

Denali Training Fund

Quarterly Progress Report

Funds for this project are provided by the USDOL and the Denali Commission and managed, in partnership, by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

9.204

Name of Organization: Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.	
Name of Project: Capacity Building/Energy Conservation and Efficiency Training	
Reporting Period: 10/1/09 – 12/31/09	
Contact Person: Cathie Clements	
Contact Number: 865-7357	Email Address: cclements@ruralcap.com
Expenditures to date: \$143,081.25 expended from this funding,	
Certification: I certify that the information in this report is current, correct and true and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.	
Signed by: _____ Catherine Clements _____ Dated _____ 10/15/09 _____	

1. In a few sentences, please describe the two scopes of your project:

The Capacity Building training for Members and Site Supervisors is designed to improve local administration and management capacity, while strengthening the collaborative work of the service Members in addressing community needs. These increased capabilities will support current and future Denali Commission projects in rural villages. Workshops offered focused on management and leadership development.

The Energy Conservation and Efficiency training for AmeriCorps and VISTA Members, and Head Start Maintenance Specialists is designed to provide the RAVEN AmeriCorps Members, VISTA Energy Program Members, and Head Start Maintenance Specialists with hands on, technical training that will enable them to reduce energy consumption in community and residential buildings.

2. Project Activities for this Reporting Period:

Describe the grant activities that happened during this report period. Include planning, advertisement and/or training performance that occurred this quarter? List any accomplishments achieved. (Attach advertisements if applicable)

@ 1/19/10

Recruitment and selection of RurAL CAP's 2010 AmeriCorps Service Members and their Site Supervisors occurred during this report period. Each year, from September – December, RurAL CAP recruits 35 new and ongoing communities and service members from rural Alaska to participate in the RAVEN (Rural Alaska Village Environmental Network) and BIRCH (Building Initiatives in Rural Community Health) AmeriCorps Programs. Each community provides oversight and supervision of the one-year AmeriCorps Members service program through a local Site Supervisor, typically the tribal or city council administrator.

After a statewide recruitment process, community and individual Member/Supervisor applications were received, screened, interviewed and scored. Final selections of our 35, 2010 AmeriCorps Members and their corresponding Supervisors were based on selection criteria which included community need, organizational capacity to fulfill the requirements of the AmeriCorps program, and strength of individual AmeriCorps Member applicants.

Thanks to our continued partnership with the Denali Training Fund, RurAL CAP plans to offer Capacity Building training for approximately 20 Supervisors new to the program, January 20-22 in Anchorage. Initial agenda planning was conducted for this Supervisor training.

3. Scheduled Project Activities/Important Dates for next quarter:

Describe your planned activities and training for next few months. Please include important dates like graduation, site visits, travel, job fairs, etc.

Capacity Building training for new AmeriCorps Supervisors will take place January 20-22, 2010, at the Millennium Hotel in Anchorage. Approximately 20 tribal or city council administrators from rural Alaska will participate in this training, designed to strengthen their supervision skills and build their capacity to assess community needs and design, implement and evaluate community development projects with the help of their AmeriCorps Members.

4. a. How many are in your training program during this reporting period?

0

b. How many people have been trained and/or certified to date from this grant?

140

(Please complete form below.)

5. Please complete the list by putting the community to which each individual trained is from, the type of training and certification, the graduation date and who will employ them upon completion of training.

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Please copy and use another sheet if you need more spaces.

6. Please identify any problems or changes in your training project that will affect the budget, scope or timeline of the project. Is your training on schedule? What are the reasons for any difficulties or delays? Are you over budget/under budget? Have you had to change the initial scope?

Please provide an explanation to this change and your resolution to the variance.

RurAL CAP's performance goals have been met under this grant agreement. In total, RurAL CAP has provided 140 rural Alaskans out of 139 targeted with Capacity Building or Energy Efficiency training. Of these, 57 out of 54 anticipated have received Energy Efficiency training, and 83 of 85 targeted have participated in Capacity Building training. However, due to our efforts to conserve spending as appropriate (finding less expensive airline tickets, acquiring in-kind space and training fee options, etc.) we have \$24,918.75 remaining in our budget at the end of the quarter. Last quarter, RurAL CAP applied for an extension of this project until 3/31/10, to engage all remaining funds through a Capacity Building training offered to approximately 20 new AmeriCorps Supervisors in January, 2010.

7. How are you or will you be evaluating the individuals being trained to ensure competency, skill level and understanding? (Testing, assessment, etc)

Capacity Building Training for AmeriCorps Members and Site Supervisors

Participants will complete a post-training evaluation to measure their overall knowledge and skills gained/improved with the training. The training evaluations also provide an opportunity for attendees to provide feedback on the usefulness of the sessions, skills learned/improved, and suggestions for future training.

In addition, Site Supervisors will participate in twice monthly teleconferences and one-on-one phone calls with our Anchorage-based Program Coordinators. Program Coordinators track AmeriCorps progress and success through weekly emails, phone calls, monthly reports, and AmeriCorps Member performance evaluations and program evaluations completed by supervisors. AmeriCorps Members also complete a pre-service self evaluation, mid-term self evaluation, and end of service self evaluation.

RurAL CAP Program Coordinators use these tools to evaluate Supervisor roles, including level of participation/support in AmeriCorps Member activities, and supervisory and

program management skills – in addition to the impact the program has had on a community-wide level.

We are thankful to report that following our Denali Training Fund Capacity Building Training for AmeriCorps Supervisors in January of 2009, we saw an increase in effective support and supervision of AmeriCorps Members, strengthening the success the community development projects implemented by the program. These improvements would not have been possible without the support of these valuable training funds.

8. Please identify areas that we can assist you in the future

Thank you for your assistance and collaboration. This has been a fruitful project and we are very appreciative about the impact the Capacity Building training has had on AmeriCorps Members, Site Supervisors and rural communities. The need for this training has also been strongly reinforced by feedback from the training participants through their evaluations.